

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 AMMAN 02699 111451Z
ACTION NEA-02

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P 111353Z MAY 77
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UNCLAS AMMAN 2699

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USIA FOR IOP/M: INA, IBS,, IPS

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. "PRESIDENT CARTER IS ONCE AGAIN PROVING TO BE A PLEASANT AND REFERESHING SURPRISE", THE JORDAN TIMES COMMENTED MAY 11. "HE STRUCK A THEME THAT HAS MARKED HIM AS A TRUE STATEMAN SAYING THAT THERE MUST BE A RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AND A HOMELAND FOR THE PALESTINIANS. THE FACT THAT HE RETURNED TO THIS QUESTION LIKE A HOMING PIGEON IS SUFFICIENT TO DISPELL DOUBTS THAT HE IS SERIOUS ABOUT IT....STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT CARTER ABOUT THE PALESTINIANS AND THIS TIME HE DID NOT SIMPLY REFER TO THEM AS REFUGEES CAN EFFECTIVELY SERVE AS SUCH A REMINDER (TO THE ISRAELIS) WHEREAS SIMILAR STATEMENTS BY THE ARABS OR THE SOVIET UNION FOR INSTANCE WILL SIMPLY BE BRUSHED AWAY AS USUAL. NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE ISRAELI PUBLIC TO FACE FACTS. IT'S NO GOOD JUST SAYING ONE WANTS PEACE ONE HAS TO MEAN IT."

2. ON THE SAME LINE AS-SAH'AB, MAY 11, EDITORIALY SAID THAT "THE QUEST FOR PEACE IS NOW AN EVIDENT ARAB, AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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GOAL....IT IS NOW UP TO U.S. TO ASK FOR CALRIFICATIONS FROM ISRAELI SIDE FOR ITS READINESS FOR PEACE...U.S. MUST GET FINAL ISRAELI ANSWER .
THEREFORE AMERICA BEARS HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITY.

3. COMMENTING MAY 11 ON "ISRAELI HURRICANE OVER CARTER" AD-DUSTOUR QUESTIONS "TO WHAT EXTENT CARTER WILL BE ABLE TO RECTIFY AMERICAN

POLICY IN M. E. THIS POLICY WHICH MADE ISRAELI DESPITE ITS COMPLETE RELIANCE ON AMERICAN AID, A PRESSURE TOOL OVER THE U.S....TO WHAT EXTENT WILL CARTER BE ABLE TO MAKE AMERICA EXERCISE AN ETHICAL ROLE IN BRINGING JUST PEACE TO ME.E....CARTER HAS NOW TO FACE ISRAELI REBUTTAL AND RECTIFY ACCUSTOMED AMERICAN POLICY (VIS A VIS ISRAEL).. AND PROBABLY HE MIGHT SUCCEED."

4. AR-RAY MAY 11 EDITORIALY QUESTIONS "WHETHER CARTER WILL USE HIS INFLUENCE TO CURB ISRAEL'S REBUTTAL OF PEACE CALLS. ISRAEL'S PRESENT ATTITUDE", THE APPER ADDED, "AIMS AT GAINING TIME TO CARTER AND CULTIVATE ITS SUPPORTRS IN U.S. IF CARTER WILL USE HIS WIDE PREROGATIVES THEN ISRAELI HAS TO COMPLY (WITH PEACE CALLS) BUT IF HE FALTERS THEN THAT WILL BE ISRAEL'S EXCU SE." FOSTER

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